

**From:** James Blackwell  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/22/02 10:20pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To the reader,

I send this email in opposition to the proposed Microsoft Antitrust settlement.

Our country must consider a more severe remedy to the unreasonable size of the Microsoft monopoly. Imagine if 90% of the milk sold in the United States were sold by only one company. That company would be allowed to dictate not only the price of milk, but the terms under which it was sold!

So too it is with Microsoft. Americans pay over \$300 for Microsoft Office with no other option due to Microsoft's proprietary formats. Americans shell out over \$90 for the only consumer targeted operating system.

What does this money buy us? Nothing much. We do not even own the compact discs that the software arrives on. We are forced to agree to the terms of Microsoft's end user licenses that have us agree that their software may not work at all!

How could a company manage such a license unless there were no other choice? While American citizens pay increasingly exorbitant rates for a good that is not even guaranteed to work, Microsoft makes extraordinary profits.

These profits are more than ample to prevent entry into the browser market, or most any other market that Microsoft is interested in. Netscape no more had a chance in survival once the words "Let's kill them" were uttered than I would if the Chicago mafia muttered those words for me.

Break the company up into three parts: Microsoft Windows, the operating system branch; Office into another company; and all other assets into a third company.

It is only by breaking up Microsoft into separate parts that the company will be reduced to a size digestible by competition.

Thank you for your time.

James Blackwell